

church, over \$200,000 has been done in renovations since 1989. In August 1998 Pastor C. Nathan Edwers was led by the Lord to move Friendship Unified Freewill Baptist Church into \$1.3 million edifice located at 261 East Lincoln Avenue in Mount Vernon at present. The church seating capacity is 1,200.

In September 1998 the church was renamed Friendship Worship Center, The Family Center. In March 20, 1999 Pastor Edwers was consecrated as a Bishop. Friendship Worship Center is now on the cutting edge of the 21st Century and every day its parishioners are helping to improve the Mount Vernon community and beyond.

On this special occasion, I want to congratulate the entire Friendship Worship Center community on 75 amazing years of love and service.

JULIE NORTON DEPARTS THE HIGH DESERT PHOENIX FOUNDATION

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2019

Mr. COOK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the incredible work of Julie Norton, who has served as the Executive Director of the High Desert Phoenix Foundation for the past ten years. The Phoenix Foundation provides financial assistance to families in the High Desert who have lost a loved one due to an accident, criminal act, or suicide.

Julie has served as Executive Director for the ten years that the Phoenix Foundation has been in existence. She is the founding member of the Foundation, and was motivated to create it after dealing with a tragic loss in her personal life. Over her ten years as executive director, Julie has helped well over 500 families lay their loved ones to rest. Additionally, Julie helped start the HALOS (Healing Loved Ones After Suicide) Program, which is a peer support group for those affected by the suicide of a friend or family member.

Julie has had an incredible impact on thousands of people during some of their toughest and most vulnerable moments, and I cannot thank her enough for all the work she has put in over the last ten years to make the Phoenix Foundation the success it is today. I offer my sincere congratulations to her for a decade as Executive Director of the High Desert Phoenix Foundation and I am certain that wherever she goes she will continue to have a positive impact on people's lives.

RECOGNIZING ERNIE BELL'S LIFE- LONG COMMITMENT TO SIERRA SANDS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2019

Mr. MCCARTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Ernest "Ernie" M. Bell Jr., who retires this year after an extensive career in education from his position as the Superintendent of the Sierra Sands Unified

School District (SSUSD), which serves the Indian Wells Valley in my congressional district in California.

Born and raised in Ridgecrest, California, Ernie graduated from Sherman E. Burroughs High School and attended Bakersfield College before receiving a degree in Biology from the University of California, Davis, and a Masters of Arts in Educational Leadership and Administration at California State University, Bakersfield. He then returned home to Ridgecrest, beginning a career in education at Murray Middle School, where he taught and coached for ten years, then served as the school's Vice Principal for four years, and finally as Murray Middle's Principal for ten years. Throughout his career as an educator, Ernie achieved extensive knowledge of the interworking and importance of education through his participation on SSUSD leadership committees and peer review panels. And it was by tackling issues critical to the district, such as student safety, collective bargaining, budgetary issues, and accreditation, that Ernie seamlessly transitioned from the classroom to SSUSD administration. In 2014, Ernie accepted the position of Superintendent of Sierra Sands Unified School District, a position that capped a lifelong career dedicated to education in the Indian Wells Valley. As Superintendent, Ernie led and successfully pushed to renovate and modernize Murray Middle School and Burroughs High School, and spearheaded the effort to secure funding for the construction of Richmond Elementary School. Ernie's legacy will be defined not only by his esteemed career as an educator to countless students, but by the fruits of his tireless advocacy for quality education in the Indian Wells Valley on future generations of students.

I know Ernie Bell as a man of his word and as a public servant who tirelessly advocated for the needs of our community's students and teachers better than almost anyone. I know that despite his retirement, he will remain just as active in the Ridgecrest community as ever. On behalf of a grateful community, I wish Ernie, his wife, Deanne, and their children, Jacob, Zachary, and Rebecca, all the best as they begin this new chapter of his life.

HONORING JILL SPIELER

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2019

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to honor a woman who has done a tremendous amount to build and strengthen the Scarsdale community in my district, Ms. Jill Spielier, this year's recipient of the prestigious Scarsdale Bowl Award.

For over 70 years, the Scarsdale Bowl has been awarded a Scarsdale resident who "has given unselfishly of time, energy, and effort to the civic welfare of the community." Nothing could better describe Jill. She has a long and distinguished record of volunteer services to Scarsdale and well beyond.

Jill began her service to Scarsdale in 1981 as a founding member of Kids B.A.S.E. and The Little School. She served as a board member from 1983 to 1988, then became President of the Board where she served two terms. She continued on the board till 1998,

and during her tenure she provided outstanding leadership, especially during some difficult times. Jill continued her commitment to the community by serving on the Scarsdale Village Board of Ethics, the Advisory Council on Youth, and the Village Parks and Recreation Council, becoming Chair of the Recreation Committee in 2000. She was also active member of the League of Women Voters and chaired the Voter Service Committee.

There are many other examples of Jill's community involvement, but they are too many to mention. She is, without question, a highly respected, trusted, insightful and collaborative community leader who has contributed a great deal to Scarsdale. Jill's selfless contribution of time and energy to community affairs epitomizes the principles symbolized by the Scarsdale Bowl.

Madam Speaker, the Bowl Award is considered the highest and most prestigious recognition given for volunteer service in Scarsdale. It is no surprise then that this year that award is going to Jill Spieler. As Member of Congress representing Scarsdale, I want to congratulate Jill on receiving this wonderful honor and thank her for her years of dedicated service to the community.

HONORING THE SUNY PLATTSBURGH WOMEN'S HOCKEY TEAM FOR THEIR 7TH NCAA DIVISION III NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP VICTORY

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2019

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the SUNY Plattsburgh Women's Hockey Team for winning their Seventh NCAA Division III National Championship.

Having previously held the record for Division III Women's Hockey championship titles, on March 16th, 2019, the Cardinals broke their own record, securing their seventh title in program history after winning a shut-out victory against Hamline University. As if that were not enough, they also finished the season on an eighteen-game winning streak, tying the program record for most wins in a single season with a near perfect 29-2 overall record.

On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I want to congratulate every member of the team, their families and the coaching staff on this impressive accomplishment. The Cardinals make the North Country very proud.

HONORING THE 60TH REUNION OF "THE EL COROLS BAND AND SHOW"

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring members of "El Corols Band and Show" (El Corols) on their 60th reunion celebration, which will take place on Sunday, April 28, 2019, at the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Southwest, Washington, D.C.